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PART-IIA

GOVERNMENT OF MEGHALAYA ORDERS BY THE GOVERNOR

NOTIFICATIONS

The 26th February, 2015.

No.POWER-132/2012/139.

1. With the restructuring of the power sector, the Distribution Company, i.e. Meghalaya Power Distribution Corporation Limited (MePDCL) started functioning with effect from 01-04-2010. One of the important issues to be resolved is the payment of energy charges on the electricity consumed by Government Departments to the Distribution Company. The system prevailing hitherto has been found to be unsatisfactory and non-payment/delayed payment of electricity bills directly impacts on the distribution business and has tariff implication for consumers. Therefore, such dues need to be settled in a time bound manner. It is often not possible for the Distribution Company to deprive Government Departments of electricity because of vital functions performed by many Government Departments.

2. It has therefore been decided that all Government Departments and autonomous bodies under the Government having single phase and three-phase electricity load up to 50 KW would switch-over to the Pre-paid Metering System. The pre-paid meters at the different locations would be identified and installed by MePDCL.

Pre-paid Metering System:

(a).The MePDCL shall identify the locations where pre-paid metering systems would be installed. These would be ISI approved pre-paid meters, duly tested for their certification. The average load of past four months would be informed to each of the offices where the pre-paid meters are installed. For new connections, the tentative amount shall be initially worked out based upon the sanctioned load.

(b). MePDCL will conduct orientation programme for the Departments where the pre-paid meters are to be installed.

(c). The concerned Head of Departments/Head of Offices would be authorized purchase of pre-paid electricity coupons/receipts from the MePDCL from their different outlets. This would be allowed either on monthly basis or even topping up the pre-paid cards. The concerned departments would buy the particular value of electricity and would be issued a receipt against each consumer number for the meter installed in the particular office. The Department would keep a record of the receipts.

(d). Rebate shall be allowed as the payment is being given in advance. MePDCL shall approach the Meghalaya State Electricity Regulatory Commission in this connection.

(e). The concerned Department will fix the limit of electricity which could be consumed, based on previous four month's consumption, so that a check on electricity consumption can be kept as a measure of energy conservation. (As a part of this drive, the Department may also pursue with PWD or the agency responsible for maintaining electrical installation to switch-over to CFL lamps and electronic chokes/tube lights to reduce energy consumption).

(f). If there are any complaints of malfunctioning of meters, the Distribution Company shall be responsible to ensure that they are rectified at the earliest and till such time it is rectified, the Distribution Company will ensure that consumption of energy is not automatically cut-off. The pre-paid meters can be programmed to give warning signs well in advance when 25% of amount is left or if the amount of electricity in credit is low.

3. The above system for pre-paid meters shall be started in a phased manner and the compliance report of the same shall be sent to the Power Department every month by the Distribution Company.

B. K. DEV VARMA,
Addl. Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Meghalaya,
Power Department.

The 22nd January, 2015.

No.FOR.136/2006/Vol-I/507.—Whereas, the use of forest land for non-forest purposes attracts the provisions of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980; and

Whereas, 'Forest' in the State of Meghalaya has been defined in the Meghalaya Forest Regulation (Amendment) Act, 2012 which is applicable to all land covered under the said definition irrespective of the ownership of land;

Now, therefore, the Governor of Meghalaya is pleased to order that no land which would fall in the category of forest land under the Forest Regulation (Amendment) Act, 2012 may be allowed for transfer under the Meghalaya Transfer of Land (Regulation) Act, 1971 or any other law by any authority or department of the State Government without the specific approval of the Forests and Environment Department.

A. NIKHLA,

Deputy Secretary to the Govt. of Meghalaya,
Forests & Environment Department.

The 22nd January, 2015.

No.FOR.82/2012/160.—In exercise of the powers conferred by Section 1 (2) of the Meghalaya Forest Regulation (Amendment) Act, 2012, it is hereby notified that the Meghalaya Forest Regulation (Amendment) Act, 2012 came into force on the date on which it was published in the Gazette of Meghalaya.

A. NIKHLA,

Deputy Secretary to the Govt. of Meghalaya,
Forests & Environment Department.

The 2nd March, 2015.

No.EDN/RTE-297/11/67.—In partial modification to this Departmentnent Notification No. EDN/RTE-297/11/64, dated 8th August, 2013 the words "**Below Poverty Line (BPL) status**" spelled out in the last line of item No.(xi) of the above Notification stands cancelled.

P. K. SRIVASTAVA,

Principal Secretary to the Govt. of Meghalaya,
Education Department.